Exhibit A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	§
	§
Plaintiff,	§
	§ CIVIL ACTION NO.
vs.	§
	§ JURY
NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY	Š
	§
Defendant.	§

INDEX OF STATE COURT MATERIALS

No.	Date Filed or Entered	Document
A-1	N/A	Civil Docket Sheet
A-2	05/12/2015	Plaintiff's Original Petition and Civil Case Information Sheet
A-3	05/12/2015	Enter Demand for Jury
A-4	05/21/2015	File copy of citation
A-5	05/18/2015	Plaintiff's Original Petition (re-filed for payment of additional fees to clerk)
A-6	06/09/2015	Letter requesting re-issuance of citation
A-7	07/23/2015	File copy of re-issued citation
A-8	07/29/2015	Dismissal Hearing Notice
A-9	07/31/2015	Letter from Texas Department of Insurance enclosing citation and petition
A-10	08/14/2015	Defendant's Original Answer

Exhibit A-1

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15

Skip to Main Content Logout My Account Search Menu New Civil District Search Refine Search Back

Page 4 of 48 PageID 8 Location : All District Civil Courts Images Help

REGISTER OF ACTIONS

CASE No. DC-15-05397

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION vs. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE

COMPANY et al

§ § § § §

Case Type: INSURANCE Date Filed: 05/12/2015

Location: 116th District Court

PARTY INFORMATION

DEFENDANT NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

Lead Attorneys WILLIAM LANCE LEWIS

Retained 214-871-2100(W)

DEFENDANT Northfield Insurance Company

PLAINTIFF LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION **MATTHEW R PEARSON**

Retained 210-472-1111(W)

EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

OTHER EVENTS AND HEARINGS 05/12/2015 NEW CASE FILED (OCA) - CIVIL 05/12/2015 ORIGINAL PETITION Petition

05/12/2015 ISSUE CITATION COMM OF INS OR SOS

05/12/2015 **JURY DEMAND**

05/18/2015 REQUEST FOR SERVICE

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES OF PETITION

05/21/2015 CITATION SOS/COI/COH/HAG

1 CIT/DC----9214-8901-0661-5400-0059-0146-34

NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY Unserved

06/09/2015 REQUEST FOR SERVICE Request for new Citation

06/09/2015 ISSUE CITATION

07/10/2015 REQUEST FOR SERVICE

No Fee Documents

07/23/2015 CITATION SOS/COI/COH/HAG

9214 8901 0661 5400 0062 7980 26

NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY Unserved

07/29/2015 NOTICE OF DISMISSAL FOR WANT OF PROSECUTION

DISMISSAL HEARING NOTICE

08/14/2015 ORIGINAL ANSWER - GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant Northfield Insurance Company's Original Answer

08/25/2015 DISMISSAL FOR WANT OF PROSECUTION (3:00 PM) (Judicial Officer PARKER, TONYA)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	PLAINTIFF LIGHTHOUSE Total Financial Assessment Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 08/17/2	t S		523.00 523.00 0.00
05/15/2015	Transaction Assessment			401.00
05/15/2015	CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 28126-2015-DCLK	Lighthouse Rescue Mission	(401.00)
05/21/2015	Transaction Assessment			14.00
05/21/2015	CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 29608-2015-DCLK	LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	(14.00)
06/11/2015	Transaction Assessment			94.00
06/11/2015	CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 33748-2015-DCLK	LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	(94.00)
07/10/2015	Transaction Assessment			14.00
07/10/2015	CREDIT CARD - TEXFILE (DC)	Receipt # 39923-2015-DCLK	LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	(14.00)

Exhibit A-2

DISTRICT CLERK

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 6 of 48 PageID 10

NO	397		Tonya Pointer
LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT	
	§		
Plaintiff,	§		
	§		
VS.	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT	
	§		
NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY	§		
	§		
Defendants.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS	

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES Plaintiffs, LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION, and files this Original Petition against Defendant NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY ("NORTHFIELD"), for causes of action and would respectfully show the Court the following:

I. DISCOVERY LEVEL

Pursuant to rule 190 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff intends to conduct discovery under Level 3.

II. VENUE

2. Venue is appropriate in Dallas County, Texas because all or part of the conduct giving rise to the causes of action was committed in Dallas County, Texas and Plaintiff and the property which is the subject of this suit are located in Dallas County, Texas.

III. PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff resides in Dallas County, Texas.
- 4. Defendant Northfield is in the business of insurance in the State of Texas. The insurance business done by Northfield in Texas includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - The making and issuing of contracts of insurance with Plaintiff;

- The taking or receiving of application for insurance, including the Plaintiff's application for insurance;
- The receiving or collection of premiums, commissions, membership fees, assessments, dues or other consideration for any insurance or any part thereof, including any such consideration or payments from Plaintiff; and
- The issuance or delivery of contracts of insurance to residents of this state or a person authorized to do business in this state, including Plaintiff.

Defendant, Northfield Insurance Company may be cited with process by *Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested* through the Texas Department of Insurance located at 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin Texas 78714. The Texas Department of Insurance may forward process via certified mail, return receipt requested to Defendant in c/o its attorney for service, registered agent and/or its company officer.

IV. NATURE OF THE CASE; RELIEF SOUGHT

This is a first-party insurance case stemming from extensive damage to Plaintiff's property. Plaintiff seeks damages for breach of contract, violations of the Texas Insurance Code, violations of the Deceptive Trade Practices Act, and common law bad faith. Plaintiff also seeks its attorney's fees, statutory penalties, costs of court and pre- and post-judgment interest. As required by Rule 47 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff seeks monetary relief over \$200,000.00 but not more than \$1,000,000.

V. BACKGROUND FACTS

The property is located at 402 East Church Street, Grand Prairie, Texas 75050. The property is covered by a policy, numbered WS204705 of insurance which Northfield sold to Plaintiff (the "Policy"). The Policy covered the property against loss by hail, wind and water damage, among other perils.

As a consequence of a storm Plaintiff's property sustained extensive damage.

Plaintiff has performed all conditions precedent to recovery under the Policy.

Plaintiff gave timely notice to the carrier.

The carrier assigned the claim to an adjusting company, among others, to investigate, report on and adjust the loss.

Defendant has failed and refused to pay Plaintiff in accordance with its promises under the Policy.

Plaintiff has suffered property damage which has not been paid, even though the amounts are well-established and have been provided to Defendant.

Defendant has failed to make an attempt to settle Plaintiff's claim in a fair manner, although its liability to the Plaintiff under the Policy is without dispute. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 541.060(a)(2)(A).

Defendant has failed to explain the reasons for its offer of an inadequate compensation. Defendant has failed to offer Plaintiff adequate compensation without any explanation why full payment was not being made. Defendant did not communicate that any future settlements or payments would be forthcoming to pay the entire losses covered under the Policy. This conduct violates Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 541.060(a)(3).

Defendant has failed to affirm or deny coverage within a reasonable time. Plaintiff did not receive timely indication of acceptance or rejection regarding the full and entire claim in writing from Defendant in a timely manner. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 541.060(a)(4).

Defendant refused to fully compensate Plaintiff under the terms of the Policy even though

Defendant failed to conduct a reasonable investigation. Defendant performed a result-oriented

investigation of Plaintiff's claim which resulted in an unfair, biased and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiff's losses. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 541.060(a)(7).

Defendant failed to meet its obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding timely acknowledging Plaintiff's claim, beginning investigation of Plaintiff's claim, and requesting all information reasonably necessary to investigate Plaintiff's claim within the time period mandated by statute. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 542.055.

Defendant failed to accept or deny Plaintiff's full and entire claim within the time period mandated by statute. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 542.056.

Defendant forced Plaintiff to file this suit by offering substantially less than the amount of covered damages. This conduct violates Texas Insurance Code § 542.003(b)(5) and 28 TAC § 21.203(5).

Defendant failed to meet its obligation under the Texas Insurance Code regarding payment of the claim without delay. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 542.058.

VI. CLAIMS AGAINST NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

<u>Declaratory Judgment.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Pursuant to the Texas Declaratory Judgment Act, Plaintiff is entitled to a declaration that the Policy provides coverage for the cost to repair the damaged property, less only a deductible, among other things. In the alternative, Plaintiff asserts that the Policy is ambiguous and must be interpreted in favor of coverage and against Defendant.

Breach of Contract. Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. The acts and omissions of Defendant and its agents constitute a breach and/or anticipatory breach of Defendant's contract with Plaintiff. Plaintiff has satisfied all conditions precedent to the fulfillment of its contractual demands. Accordingly, additionally or in the alternative, Plaintiff brings an action for breach of

contract against Defendant pursuant to Texas statutory and common law, including Chapter 38 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and seek all of its damages for such breach, including actual damages, consequential damages, attorneys' fees, prejudgment interest, other litigation expenses and costs of court.

<u>Violations of the Texas Insurance Code.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. At all pertinent times, Defendant was engaged in the business of insurance as defined by the Texas Insurance Code. The acts and omissions of Defendant and its agents constitute one or more violations of the Texas Insurance Code. More specifically, Defendant has, among other violations, violated the following provisions of the Code:

- 1. Insurance Code chapter 542, the Prompt Payment Act.
- 2. Insurance Code § 542.003(b)(5) and 28 TAC § 21.203(5).
- 3. Insurance Code chapter 541, section 541.060 by, among other things:
- misrepresenting one or more material facts and/or policy provisions relating to coverage;
- failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim with respect to which his liability has become reasonably clear;
- failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim under one portion of a policy with respect to which liability has become reasonably clear in order to influence Plaintiff to settle his claim with respect to another portion of the policy;
- failing to promptly provide a reasonable explanation of the basis in law or fact for the denial of Plaintiff's claims;
- refusing to affirm or deny coverage within a reasonable time; and/or
- refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation.

Where statements were made by Defendant, Plaintiff reasonably relied upon them. As a result of the foregoing conduct, which was and is the producing cause(s) of injury and damage to

Plaintiff, Plaintiff has suffered damages including, without limitation, actual damages, economic damages, and consequential damages. Moreover, one or more of the foregoing acts or omissions were "knowingly" made, entitling Plaintiff to seek treble damages pursuant to the Insurance Code. Defendant has also violated the Prompt Payment Act, and Plaintiff seeks 18% damages as a penalty, plus reasonable and necessary attorney's fees incurred as a result of these violations.

<u>Violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. At all times pertinent, Plaintiff were a "consumer" as defined in Section 17.45(4) of the Texas Business and Commerce Code, the Texas Deceptive Trade Practice Act ("DTPA").

Defendant and its agents violated provisions of the DTPA, including the following:

- violations of Texas Insurance Code as set forth above;
- representing that the Policy had benefits which it did not have;
- representing that the Policy conferred or involved rights and remedies that it did not have;
- promulgating and selling a Policy which is essentially worthless, provides little or no coverage, and is illusory;
- misrepresenting the terms of an agreement;
- representing that the Policy had characteristics, standards, or coverage which it did not have;
- failing to disclose information that was known at the time of the purchase of the Policy because it was intended to induce Plaintiff into purchasing the Policy; and/or
- engaging in an unconscionable act or course of action.

The deceptive acts and practices as alleged herein were committed in connection with Plaintiff's purchase of and claim under the Policy. Plaintiff relied on the false, misleading and deceptive acts and practices as above alleged to its detriment, and the conduct described above was the producing cause of injury and damage to Plaintiff. As a result of the foregoing conduct,

Plaintiff has suffered damages including, without limitation, actual damages, economic damages, and consequential damages.

One or more of the foregoing acts or omissions were "knowingly" made. Accordingly, Plaintiff will seek treble damages pursuant to DTPA Section 17.50(b)(1).

"Common Law Bad Faith." Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Defendant has refused to pay or delayed in paying a claim after liability has become reasonably clear. Defendant has refused to pay, delayed in paying or offered grossly inadequate and unconscionable sums to settle the claims submitted by Plaintiff. This constitutes a breach of its common law duty of good faith and fair dealing' *i.e.*, it is acting in "bad faith."

Moreover, Defendant has "investigated" and "adjusted" Plaintiff's claim in a malicious, intentional, fraudulent and/or grossly negligent fashion, and Plaintiff are entitled to extracontractual damages, including exemplary damages. Plaintiff has sustained serious damage to his property as a result of Defendant's refusal to honor the Policy. Defendant is well aware that its actions involve an extreme risk that Plaintiff will suffer financial damage as a result of its refusal to honor its obligations, yet it is consciously indifferent to Plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff is entitled to recover its actual damages, consequential damages, punitive damages, and pre- and post-judgment interest.

Attorney's fees. Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Plaintiff has been required to engage the services of the undersigned attorneys and have agreed to pay his attorneys a reasonable fee for services expended and to be expended in the prosecution of his claims against Defendant through the trial court and all levels of the appellate process. Plaintiff seeks the recovery of all of his attorney's fees and expenses.

With respect to all causes of action asserted herein, Plaintiff seeks the recovery of prejudgment and post-judgment interest.

VII. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

All conditions precedent for Plaintiff to recover under the Policy has been or will be met.

VIII. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff request that a jury be convened to try the factual issues in this action.

IX. REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 194, Plaintiff requests that Defendant provide the information required in a Request for Disclosure.

X. REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

Produce Northfield's complete claim file for Plaintiff's property relating to or arising out of any damage which occurred.

Produce all emails, notes, and other forms of communication between Northfield, its agents, Adjusters, employees, or representatives relating to, mentioning, concerning or evidencing the Plaintiff's property which is the subject of this suit.

XI. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks the following relief:

- A. The Court's declaration that the Policy provides coverage for the damage to the property, less only a deductible;
- B. Alternatively, a ruling that the Policy is ambiguous and must be interpreted in favor of coverage and in favor of Plaintiff;

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 14 of 48 PageID 18

C. Damages against Defendant for breach of contract, including actual damages,

consequential damages, attorneys' fees, pre- and post-judgment interest, other litigation expenses

and costs of court;

D. Penalty in the amount of 18% damages for violations of the Prompt Payment Act;

E. Damages against Defendant for other violations of the Texas Insurance Code,

including without limitation economic damages, actual damages, consequential damages, treble

damages, and reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees;

F. Damages against Defendant for violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act,

including without limitation economic damages, actual damages, consequential damages, treble

damages, and reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees;

G. Damages against Defendant for breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing,

including actual damages, consequential damages, punitive damages and pre- and post-judgment

interest; and

H. Plaintiff also seeks all other financial relief and rulings to which they may be legally or

equitably entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTHEW R. PEARSON

Matthe R Pearson

State Bar No. 00788173

mpearson@gplawfirm.com

JONATHAN C. LISENBY

State Bar No. 24072889

ilisenby@gplawfirm.com

GRAVELY & PEARSON, L.L.P.

9

425 Soledad, Suite 600 San Antonio, Texas 78205 Telephone: (210) 472-1111 Facsimile: (210) 472-1110

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 16 of 48 PageID 20 CIVIL CASE INFORMATION SHEET

CAUSE NUMBER (FOR CLERK USE ONLY): COURT (FOR CLERK USE ONLY):						
STYLED Lighthouse Rescue Mission v. Northfield Insurance Company						
A civil case information sheet m	e.g., John Smith v. All American In ust be completed and submitte	surance Co; In r	e Mary Ann Jones; In the	cation is filed to i	nitiate a new ci	vil, family law, probate, or mental ion should be the best available at
1. Contact information for person	on completing case information	on sheet:	Names of parties i	n case:	Perso	on or entity completing sheet is:
Name;	Email:		Plaintiff(s)/Petition	er(s):		ney for Plaintiff/Petitioner Se Plaintiff/Petitioner
Matthew R. Pearson	mpearson@gplawfirm	.com	Lighthouse Rescue	• •	☐Title	IV-D Agency
Address:		,				
425 Soledad Street, Ste 600	Telephone: 210-472-1111				 Addition	nal Parties in Child Support Case;
City/State/Zip:	Fax:		Defendant(s)/Respo		Custodia	al Parent:
San Antonio, Texas 78205	210-472-1110		Northfield Insurance	e Company	Non-Cu	stodial Parent:
Signature:	State Bar No:					
Moste R Penson					Presume	d Father:
[Attach additional p			[Attach additional page as	necessary to list all part	ies]	
2. Indicate case type, or identify	the most important issue in t	he case <i>(selec</i> i	t only 1):			
					ran	nily Law Post-judgment Actions
Contract Debt/Contract	Injury or Damage Assault/Battery		Real Property inent Domain/	Marriage	Relationship	(non-Title IV-D)
☐Consumer/DTPA ☐Debt/Contract	Construction Defamation		ndemnation		nı Aarriage Void	Enforcement Modification—Custody
Fraud/Misrepresentation	Malpractice	∏Qui	iet Title	With €		Modification—Other Title IV-D
Other Debt/Contract:	☐Accounting ☐Legal		spass to Try Title er Property:	□No Ch	ildren	☐ Enforcement/Modification ☐ Paternity
Foreclosure Home Equity—Expedited Other Foreclosure	☐Medical ☐Other Professional Liability:	ional				Reciprocals (UIFSA) Support Order
Franchise Insurance	Motor Vehicle Accident	Related to Criminal Accident Matters		Other F	amily Law	Parent-Child Relationship
☐ Landlord/Tenant☐ Non-Competition	Premises Product Liability		ounction gment Nisi	Enforce I Judgmen	Foreign	Adoption/Adoption with
Partnership	☐Asbestos/Silica	□Nor	n-Disclosure	☐ Habeas C	Corpus	Child Protection
Other Contract:	Other Product Liability List Product:	□Wri	zure/Forfeiture t of Habeas Corpus—		e Order	☐Child Support☐Custody or Visitation
	☐Other Injury or Damage:		-indictment er:	Removal of Minor	of Disabilities ity	☐Gestational Parenting☐Grandparent Access
			-,	☐Other:	Í	Parentage/Paternity Termination of Parental
Employment	0	ther Civil	-	1		Rights
☐ Discrimination ☐ Retaliation	Administrative Appeal		vyer Discipline			Other Parent-Child:
Termination	☐Antitrust/Unfair Competition	Sec	petuate Testimony urities/Stock			
☐ Workers' Compensation ☐ Other Employment:	☐Code Violations ☐Foreign Judgment	☐Tort ☐Oth	tious Interference er:			
	☐Intellectual Property					
Tax	Probate & Mental Health					
☐Tax Appraisal ☐Tax Delinquency	Probate/Wills/Intestate Adm			Guardianship—Adult		
Other Tax	☐ Dependent Administra ☐ Independent Administ	ration		☐Guardianship—Minor ☐Mental Health		
Other Estate Proceedings					-	
3. Indicate procedure or remedy,	if applicable (may select mor	e than 1):				
Appeal from Municipal or Just Arbitration-related		claratory Judgi	ment		Prejudgment Rei Protective Order	
Attachment	☐ Garnishment ☐ Interpleader			∭ ⊡F	Receiver	
☐Bill of Review ☐Certiorari	License Mandamus				Sequestration Semporary Restr	aining Order/Injunction
Class Action	Pos	t-judgment			urnover	anning of don Myunotton
4. Indicate damages sought (do not be a like than \$100,000, including the state of	not select if it is a family law co	costs expens	es pre-judament inter	est and attorney	299	
Less than \$100,000, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney fees Less than \$100,000 and non-monetary relief						
☐Over \$100, 000 but not more than \$200,000 ☑Over \$200,000 but not more than \$1,000,000						
Over \$1,000,000						

Exhibit A-3

FILED

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1

08/26/15 Page 18 of 48 Page PALLAS COUNTY

5/12/2015 10:12:54 AM FELICIA PITRE DISTRICT CLERK

FELICIA PITRE DALLAS COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

NINA MOUNTIQUE CHIEF DEPUTY

CAUSE NO. DC-15-05397

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION vs. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

116th District Court

ENTER DEMAND FOR JURY

JURY FEE PAID BY: PLAINTIFF

FEE PAID: \$30

Exhibit A-4

PAID

CERT MAIL (C0I)H

FORM NO. 353-4—CITATION

To:

OFFICER'S RETURN FOR INDIVIDUALS

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Court No: 116th District Court

Style: LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION vs.

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Received this Citation the	day of, State of	, 20 at on the	o'clock. I	o'clock. Executed at , 20_y of, 20	at st	within the County of o'clock, by	DIS. sect 60
delivering to the within named petition, having first indorsed on same the date of delivery.	e of delivery.	each in	each in person, a copy	of this Citation to	gether with the	each in person, a copy of this Citation together with the accompanying copy of Piannill's original	Plaintits original
		OFFICE FOR COI	OFFICER'S RETURN FOR CORPORATIONS				
Received this Citation theday of	, State of		o'clock M. Exec	.M. Executed atday of	, 20 , w	, within the County of	M. by summoning
the within named Corporation, President - Vice Pr	on, by delivering to President - Registered Agent - in person, of the said	to - in person, of the	said				
a true copy of this citation together with the accompanying copy of Plaintiff's original petition, having first indorsed on same the date of delivery.	vith the accompanying copy	of Plaintiff's orig	original petition, ha	ving first indorse	d on same the	date of delivery.	
The distance actually traveled by me in serving such process was For Serving Citation	g such process was Sheriff	miles and my	miles and my fees are as follows:		fy which with	To certify which witness by my hand.	
For Notary \$ For Notary \$ Total Fees \$	State of By By						i age
(Must be verified if served outside the State of Texas) State of	f Texas)						
County of Signed and sworn to me by the said day of	to certify which	before me this witness my hand and seal of office.	is nd seal of office	.;			

42-9419-6500-0045-1990-1068-4186

State & County of

Seal

Exhibit A-5

DEP 14 PAYMENT OF ADD'L FEES

5/18/2015 4:02:19 PM 5/12/2015 10:12:54 AM

DALLAS COUNTY

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 23 of #861A Page ID 27

DISTRICT CLERK

FELICIA PITRE DISTRICT CLERK

Tonya Pointer

NO	DC-15-05397	Lantz Sandra
LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION	§ §	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	\$ \$	
VS.	§ §	JUDICIAL DISTRICT
NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMI	PANY § §	
Defendants.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

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Defendant failed to meet its obligation under the Texas Insurance Code regarding payment of the claim without delay. This conduct is a violation of Tex. Ins. Code Sec. 542.058.

VI. CLAIMS AGAINST NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

<u>Declaratory Judgment.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Pursuant to the Texas Declaratory Judgment Act, Plaintiff is entitled to a declaration that the Policy provides coverage for the cost to repair the damaged property, less only a deductible, among other things. In the alternative, Plaintiff asserts that the Policy is ambiguous and must be interpreted in favor of coverage and against Defendant.

Breach of Contract. Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. The acts and omissions of Defendant and its agents constitute a breach and/or anticipatory breach of Defendant's contract with Plaintiff. Plaintiff has satisfied all conditions precedent to the fulfillment of its contractual demands. Accordingly, additionally or in the alternative, Plaintiff brings an action for breach of

contract against Defendant pursuant to Texas statutory and common law, including Chapter 38 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code, and seek all of its damages for such breach, including actual damages, consequential damages, attorneys' fees, prejudgment interest, other litigation expenses and costs of court.

<u>Violations of the Texas Insurance Code.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. At all pertinent times, Defendant was engaged in the business of insurance as defined by the Texas Insurance Code. The acts and omissions of Defendant and its agents constitute one or more violations of the Texas Insurance Code. More specifically, Defendant has, among other violations, violated the following provisions of the Code:

- 1. Insurance Code chapter 542, the Prompt Payment Act.
- 2. Insurance Code § 542.003(b)(5) and 28 TAC § 21.203(5).
- 3. Insurance Code chapter 541, section 541.060 by, among other things:
- misrepresenting one or more material facts and/or policy provisions relating to coverage;
- failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim with respect to which his liability has become reasonably clear;
- failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of a claim under one portion of a policy with respect to which liability has become reasonably clear in order to influence Plaintiff to settle his claim with respect to another portion of the policy;
- failing to promptly provide a reasonable explanation of the basis in law or fact for the denial of Plaintiff's claims;
- refusing to affirm or deny coverage within a reasonable time; and/or
- refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation.

Where statements were made by Defendant, Plaintiff reasonably relied upon them. As a result of the foregoing conduct, which was and is the producing cause(s) of injury and damage to

Plaintiff, Plaintiff has suffered damages including, without limitation, actual damages, economic damages, and consequential damages. Moreover, one or more of the foregoing acts or omissions were "knowingly" made, entitling Plaintiff to seek treble damages pursuant to the Insurance Code. Defendant has also violated the Prompt Payment Act, and Plaintiff seeks 18% damages as a penalty, plus reasonable and necessary attorney's fees incurred as a result of these violations.

<u>Violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.</u> Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. At all times pertinent, Plaintiff were a "consumer" as defined in Section 17.45(4) of the Texas Business and Commerce Code, the Texas Deceptive Trade Practice Act ("DTPA").

Defendant and its agents violated provisions of the DTPA, including the following:

- violations of Texas Insurance Code as set forth above;
- representing that the Policy had benefits which it did not have;
- representing that the Policy conferred or involved rights and remedies that it did not have;
- promulgating and selling a Policy which is essentially worthless, provides little or no coverage, and is illusory;
- misrepresenting the terms of an agreement;
- representing that the Policy had characteristics, standards, or coverage which it did not have;
- failing to disclose information that was known at the time of the purchase of the Policy because it was intended to induce Plaintiff into purchasing the Policy; and/or
- engaging in an unconscionable act or course of action.

The deceptive acts and practices as alleged herein were committed in connection with Plaintiff's purchase of and claim under the Policy. Plaintiff relied on the false, misleading and deceptive acts and practices as above alleged to its detriment, and the conduct described above was the producing cause of injury and damage to Plaintiff. As a result of the foregoing conduct,

Plaintiff has suffered damages including, without limitation, actual damages, economic damages, and consequential damages.

One or more of the foregoing acts or omissions were "knowingly" made. Accordingly, Plaintiff will seek treble damages pursuant to DTPA Section 17.50(b)(1).

"Common Law Bad Faith." Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Defendant has refused to pay or delayed in paying a claim after liability has become reasonably clear. Defendant has refused to pay, delayed in paying or offered grossly inadequate and unconscionable sums to settle the claims submitted by Plaintiff. This constitutes a breach of its common law duty of good faith and fair dealing' *i.e.*, it is acting in "bad faith."

Moreover, Defendant has "investigated" and "adjusted" Plaintiff's claim in a malicious, intentional, fraudulent and/or grossly negligent fashion, and Plaintiff are entitled to extracontractual damages, including exemplary damages. Plaintiff has sustained serious damage to his property as a result of Defendant's refusal to honor the Policy. Defendant is well aware that its actions involve an extreme risk that Plaintiff will suffer financial damage as a result of its refusal to honor its obligations, yet it is consciously indifferent to Plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff is entitled to recover its actual damages, consequential damages, punitive damages, and pre- and post-judgment interest.

Attorney's fees. Plaintiff re-alleges the foregoing paragraphs. Plaintiff has been required to engage the services of the undersigned attorneys and have agreed to pay his attorneys a reasonable fee for services expended and to be expended in the prosecution of his claims against Defendant through the trial court and all levels of the appellate process. Plaintiff seeks the recovery of all of his attorney's fees and expenses.

With respect to all causes of action asserted herein, Plaintiff seeks the recovery of prejudgment and post-judgment interest.

VII. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

All conditions precedent for Plaintiff to recover under the Policy has been or will be met.

VIII. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff request that a jury be convened to try the factual issues in this action.

IX. REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 194, Plaintiff requests that Defendant provide the information required in a Request for Disclosure.

X. REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

Produce Northfield's complete claim file for Plaintiff's property relating to or arising out of any damage which occurred.

Produce all emails, notes, and other forms of communication between Northfield, its agents, Adjusters, employees, or representatives relating to, mentioning, concerning or evidencing the Plaintiff's property which is the subject of this suit.

XI. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks the following relief:

- A. The Court's declaration that the Policy provides coverage for the damage to the property, less only a deductible;
- B. Alternatively, a ruling that the Policy is ambiguous and must be interpreted in favor of coverage and in favor of Plaintiff;

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C. Damages against Defendant for breach of contract, including actual damages,

consequential damages, attorneys' fees, pre- and post-judgment interest, other litigation expenses

and costs of court;

D. Penalty in the amount of 18% damages for violations of the Prompt Payment Act;

E. Damages against Defendant for other violations of the Texas Insurance Code,

including without limitation economic damages, actual damages, consequential damages, treble

damages, and reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees;

F. Damages against Defendant for violations of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act,

including without limitation economic damages, actual damages, consequential damages, treble

damages, and reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees;

G. Damages against Defendant for breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing,

including actual damages, consequential damages, punitive damages and pre- and post-judgment

interest; and

H. Plaintiff also seeks all other financial relief and rulings to which they may be legally or

equitably entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTHEW R. PEARSON

Matthe R Pearson

State Bar No. 00788173

mpearson@gplawfirm.com

JONATHAN C. LISENBY

State Bar No. 24072889

ilisenby@gplawfirm.com

GRAVELY & PEARSON, L.L.P.

9

425 Soledad, Suite 600 San Antonio, Texas 78205 Telephone: (210) 472-1111 Facsimile: (210) 472-1110

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

Exhibit A-6

DALLAS COUNTY

6/9/2015 10:26:57 AM **FELICIA PITRE** DISTRICT CLERK

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Gravely & Pearson, L.L.P

Page 34 of 48 PageID 38 MATTHEW R. PEARSON Board Certified - Personal Injury Trial Law

Texas Board of Legal Specialization mpearson@gplawfirm.com

Angie Avina

June 9, 2015

Dallas County District Clerk 600 Commerce Street, Suite 103 Dallas, Texas 75202

> Re: Lighthouse Rescue Mission v. Northfield Insurance Company; Cause No.: DC-15-05397, In the District Court, F-116th Judicial District, Dallas County, Texas

Dear Dallas County District Clerk:

Please allow this correspondence to act as Plaintiff's request for the Citation that was issued to Northfield Insurance Company to be reissued. Please reissued the Citation by issuing to Northfield Insurance Company, whose address is 1 Tower Square, Hartford, CT 06183-0001. Please make sure this address is listed on the citation.

Defendant, Northfield Insurance Company may be cited with process by Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested through the Texas Department of Insurance located at 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin Texas 78714. The Texas Department of Insurance may forward process via certified mail, return receipt requested to Defendant in c/o its attorney for service, registered agent and/or its company officer.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Danielle Motroni

Danielle Motroni

/dnm

Exhibit A-7

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 36 of 48 PageID 40

FELICIA PITRE
DISTRICT CLERK GEORGE ALLEN SR COURTS
103
600 COMMERCE ST
DALLAS, TX 75202-4689



Return Receipt (Electronic)

9214 8901 0661 5400 0062 7980 26

DC155397 SA

BY SERVING THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY 333 GUADALUPE ST AUSTIN, TX 78701-3938

CUT / FOLD HERE

6"X9" ENVELOPE CUT / FOLD HERE

CUT / FOLD HERE

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION O VS. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE SA COMPANY ET AL Case 3:15 No.: DC-15-05397 CITATION clerk who issued this citation by 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with

CERT MAIL(COI)

ON THIS THE 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2015

FELICIA PITRE

nent 1-1

Clerk District Courts,

By SACHEEN ANTHONY, Deputy

Filed 08/26/15

Attorney for: Plaintiff

TX 78205 GRAVELY & PEARSON LLP 425 SOLEDAD SUITE 600 **MATTHEW R PEARSON** SAN ANTONIO

214.472.1111

Page 37 of 48

AS COUNTY CONSTABLE PAID PAID

PageID 41

Dallas County, Texas

For suit, said suit being numbered DC-15-05397 the nature of which demand is as follows:

Suit On INSURANCE etc.

, a copy of which accompanies this citation. If this citation is not served, it shall be

Given under my hand and the Seal of said Court at office on this the 23rd day of July, 2015 WITNESS: FELICIA PITRE, Clerk of the District Courts of Dallas, County Texas.

Clerk of the District Courts of Dallas, County, Texas

B,

SACHEEN ANTHONY

, Deputy

Said PLAINTIFF being LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION

were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

BY SERVING THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

AUSTIN TEXAS 78714-9104

GREETINGS:

333 GUADALUPE

NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

FORM NO. 353-4—CITATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Your answer should be addressed to the clerk of the 116th District Court

at 600 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas 75202.

Filed in said Court 12th day of May, 2015 against

NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

as shown on said petition returned unexecuted.

ATTEST: FELICIA PITRE

OFFICER'S RETURN FOR INDIVIDUALS

Case	3:15-cv-(ment 1 au. W. Primer 1 au. W. Primer 1 au. W. Primer 1 au. W. W. Primer 1 au. W.	Filed	08/20	6/15	Page 3	38 of 48	Pag	eID 42
		o'clock. Executed at, within the County of, at, o'clock, by, at, o'clock, by, a cony of this Citation together with the accompanying copy of Plaintiff's original		, within the County of o'clock M. by		orsed on same the date of delivery.	To certify which witness by my hand.				State & County of
FOR INDIVIDUALS		, 20 at o'clock. Executed at day of day of each in person a conv of this Citation	000000	FOR CORPORATIONS 20 at o'clock M. Executed at day of day of the day of	by delivering to distered Agent - in person, of the said	a true copy of this citation together with the accompanying copy of Plaintiffs original petition, having first indorsed on same the date of delivery.	miles and my fees are as follows:	County of State of By		, to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.	
Cause No. DC-15-05397	Court No: 116th District Court Style: LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION vs. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY et al	Received this Citation the day of State of State of	petition, having first indorsed on same the date of delivery.	day of, State of	by delivering to The within named Corporation, President - Vice President - Registered Agent -	a true copy of this citation together with the accompany	actually traveled by me in serving such process w	For Mileage \$ S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	(Must be verified if served outside the State of Texas) State of County of	Signed and sworn to me by the said day of 20, to certif	Seal

Exhibit A-8



116TH DISTRICT COURT GEORGE ALLEN COURTS BLDG. 600 COMMERCE STREET DALLAS, TX 75202-4606 214-653-6015

7/29/2015

MATTHEW R PEARSON (via facsimile 210-472-1110)

Re:

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION vs. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY et al DC-15-05397

DISMISSAL HEARING NOTICE

The above case is set for dismissal for want of prosecution 08/25/2015 at 3:00 PM. in the 116th District Court, Dallas County, Texas.

If you have perfected service and no answer has been filed, you must have moved for or have proved up a default judgment on or prior to the above date. Failure to do so prior to dismissal hearing will automatically result in the dismissal of the case on the above date and time and place.

If you have not perfected service on all parties prior to said dismissal date you MUST APPEAR AT THE DISMISSAL HEARING. During said hearing you will have the opportunity to show by way of verified motion, good cause for maintaining the case on the docket. At the dismissal hearing the court SHALL dismiss for Want of Prosecution unless there is a showing of good cause.

Sincerely

Shirl Townsend,

Coordinator

SOLO PAGE

TIME : 07/29/2015 10:30 NAME : 116TH DISTRICT COURT FAX : 2146536755

FAA : 2146536765 TEL : 2146536015 SER.# : U63315G3J459167

DATE, TIME FAX NO./NAME DURATION PAGE(S) RESULT

07/29 10:29 #12104721110968987

00:00:26

OK Grandar

STANDARD

116TH DISTRICT COURT GEORGE ALLEN COURTS BLDG. 600 COMMERCE STREET DALLAS, TX 75202-4606 214-653-6015

7/29/2015

MATTHEW R PEARSON (via facsimile 210-472-1110)

Re:

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION
vs. NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY et al
DC-15-05397

DISMISSAL HEARING NOTICE

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If you have not perfected service on all parties prior to said dismissal date you MUST APPEAR AT THE DISMISSAL HEARING. During said hearing you will have the opportunity to show by way of verified motion, good cause for maintaining the case on the docket. At the dismissal hearing the court SHALL dismiss for Want of Prosecution unless there is a showing of good cause.

Exhibit A-9

Case 3:15-cv-02787-N Document 1-1 Filed 08/26/15 Page 43 of 48 PageID 47

Texas Department of Insurance

General Counsel Division (113-2A)

333 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701 ★ PO Box 149104, Austin, Texas 78714-9104 (512) 676-6585 | F: (512) 490-1064 | (800) 578-4677 | TDI.texas.gov | @TexasTDI

CORPORATE LITIGATION HARTFORD

AUG 0 4 2015

July 31, 2015

RECEIVED PM

Certified Mail No. 7014 1820 0000 4248 3347 Return Receipt Requested

Brian W. Maclean, President Northfield Insurance Company 1 Tower Square Hartford, CT 06183-0001

Re: Cause No. DC-15-05397; styled *Lighthouse Rescue Mission vs. Northfield Insurance Company*; in the 116th Judicial District Court, Dallas County, Texas

Greetings:

Service of Process has been requested through the Commissioner of Insurance. Enclosed please find citation and Plaintiff's Original Petition in the above-referenced matter. These documents were served upon the Commissioner of Insurance on July 30, 2015.

Sincerely,

Tish Wilhelm

General Counsel Division

Jish Wilhelm

(512) 676-6543

Enclosures

Exhibit A-10

DISTRICT CLERK

CAUSE NO. DC-15-05397

LIGHTHOUSE RESCUE MISSION,	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	116TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
	§	
NORTHFIELD INSURANCE	§	
COMPANY,	§	
,	§	
Defendant.	§	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

DEFENDANT NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY'S ORIGINAL ANSWER

In response to Plaintiff's Original Petition (the "Petition"), Defendant Northfield Insurance Company ("Northfield" or "Defendant") hereby files its Original Answer thereto.

I. GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant denies all and singular the allegations contained in the Petition and demands strict proof thereof.

II. ADDITIONAL DEFENSES

- 1. Defendant denies that all conditions precedent to Plaintiff's claims for recovery have occurred or been met, and they have not been waived.
- 2. Coverage is precluded to the extent that the loss occurred outside the policy period.
- 3. Coverage is precluded to the extent the loss was not caused by a "Covered Cause of Loss."

- 4. Coverage is precluded to the extent Plaintiff seeks reimbursement for loss or damage on a replacement cost basis.
- 5. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part because the Policy precludes coverage for loss or "damage to the interior of any building or structure, or the property inside the building or structure, caused by rain, snow, sand or dust, whether driven by wind or not, unless the building or structure first sustains wind or hail damage to its roof or walls through which the rain, snow, sand or dust enters."
- 6. Some or all of Plaintiff's claims may be excluded by breach of policy requirements and/or conditions in the Policy, including the insured's duties in the event of loss or damage, such as the failure to provide prompt notice of the loss or damage and take all reasonable steps to protect Covered Property from further damage.
- 7. Plaintiff's claims may be excluded in whole or in part by the Limitations on Coverage for Roof Surfacing endorsement.
- 8. To the extent a disagreement exists regarding the amount of loss properly subject to appraisal, the Policy provides that if Northfield and the insured disagree on the amount of loss "either may make written demand for an appraisal of the loss."
- 9. Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part because the Policy precludes coverage for "[n]eglect of an insured to use all reasonable means to save and preserve property from further damage at and after the time of loss."
- 10. Plaintiff's claims may be barred in whole or in part by the "Fungus", Wet Rot, Dry Rot, And Bacteria exclusion and/or the sublimit for loss or damage by "fungus," wet or dry rot or bacteria.

- 11. Plaintiff's claims may be barred in whole or in part by the limitations provided in the Ordinance or Law exclusion.
 - 12. Plaintiff has failed to mitigate its damages.
- 13. Plaintiff's claims are subject to the Windstorm or Hail Fixed Dollar Deductible, as well as the policy limits therein.
- 14. All or a portion of Plaintiff's claims were caused by the negligence and/or comparative responsibility of Plaintiff, persons acting on Plaintiff's behalf and/or under Plaintiff's direction or control, and/or third parties over which Defendant had no control.
- 15. Defendant is entitled to a credit or offset for all amounts previously paid by any other insurer, if any, including Northfield.
 - 16. Plaintiff's claims may be barred in whole or in part by the one satisfaction rule.
- 17. The damages sought by Plaintiff may be barred in whole or in part by the Excessive Demand Doctrine.
- 18. Plaintiff's exemplary damages claims are barred in whole or in part by the Due Process Clause and the Excessive Fines Clause of the United States Constitution, Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, or any other applicable law.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant Northfield Insurance Company prays that Plaintiff take nothing by this suit, and that Defendant goes hence and recovers costs on its behalf expended.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

WM. LANCE LEWIS
State Bar No. 12314560
ALISSA PUCKETT
State Bar No. 24056886
QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS, WINSLETT & MOSER, P.C.
2001 Bryan Street, Suite 1800
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 871-2100 (Phone)
(214) 871-2111 (Fax)
llewis@qslwm.com
apuckett@qslwm.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT NORTHFIELD INSURANCE COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of this pleading has been furnished to counsel of record as provided below, via electronic service, in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, this 14th day of August 2015:

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

Wm. Lance Lewis / Alissa Puckett